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Mortal Food That Leads to Immortality

Dispensed to Soldiers in Philippines.

Troops Try It on Dogs Before Eating.

Relatives of a young man, from this city, who is serving with the army in the Philippines, have received an interesting letter from him. As there are certain passages in the communication that might cause him trouble his name is suppressed. It follows:

Manila, Jan. 27, 1901.

I will give you a little sketch of what is going on over here at present. The first concerns our cook. He has discovered a couple of new dishes, which he calls "Pigs in a blanket and Roly Polies." The pigs in a blanket are pieces of flat bacon wrapped up in dough and fried. Roly Polies are made of dough wrapped around dried apples and also fried. These two new culinary discoveries are warranted to kill the hardest dog or soldier that ever chased a Filipino. Another new addition to our limited larder is evaporated potatoes packed in this and labeled "Ossified Spuds in a Karduffle," which is very appropriate as they taste very much like sawdust pressed into and soaked in soft soup.

We had a swell dinner Christmas, that is, we were all swelled with pains from indigestion. It consisted of strong smelling William Gout, rice, real live macaroni, pigs in a blanket, roly polies, bacon fried, boiled and stewed. The dinner was highly seasoned with ants, which I have heard rumored, our cook believes to be fully as warm as pepper and helps digestion better, large particles of food swallowed without chewing are quickly pulled at by the ants in the stomach, which our famous claims was the invention of that Shakespearean quotation, viz: "I feel another nature struggling within me." We also had coffee, which may have been made from boiling old shoes with old socks in them. It tasted very much that way anyhow. For supper we had what we didn't eat for dinner, with more boot-leg flavored with ants. I would have hung up my stockings "Christmas Eve" only there were no feet in them.

We also had a very swell New Year's; it was a real happy one. That is all of us that were alive were happy that such was the fact. We all wished our famous "cook" and his assistants a very happy New Year and few of them. The bill of fare was slightly changed for this occasion and instead of the famous discoveries, which would make Marion Harland turn green with envy, we had the more famous Gen. Eagen brand of prime roast beef, butchered on the premises with a can opener and grid-dle cakes. I am going to ship one of these cakes to the Rubber trust, for I believe I have discovered a substitute for rubber that may bring me untold wealth. We had gravy, too. We asked the cook what it was made from, but he said he was not giving his profession away to common soldiers. If you think of doing any paper hanging this coming season, please let me know, for I may be able to get the receipt from him as he talks in his sleep. I really think that if a person were to accidentally sit down in a dish of this gravy he would carry the dish around forevermore fastened to him. Our famous cook left word with the guard to be called New Year's morning at 3 a.m. We all expected that we were about to get some extra famous dish, and we were anxious to know what it would be.

When we fell out for reveille in the morning we heard a great commotion

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in the direction of the kitchen and saw clouds of some white substance issuing from the quarter. We crept up and peeped in, and behold, there was the cook, covered with flour from head to foot and the dough was smeared on his bald head and patches of it were all over him, giving him the appearance of a half finished statue of clay. The assistant cook was sitting on a tomato can near by dissecting canned prunes and he was also covered more or less with flying particles of dough. Our assistant cook is somewhat famous, too. In fact he obtained his knowledge of cooking in the B. T. Rabbit's soap works, where he was employed frying out tallow for candles, etc. The rumor finally got about that they were manufacturing prune duff for our New Year's dinner, which proved also to be only too true. It arrived at the table in due time, though it required considerable effort to raise it that high. After a comical effort of all hands it was decided not to use powder in dividing it, so that each one would get some, owing to the danger usually connected with

blasting.

But the doctor happily came to the rescue with his surgeon saws and while we will be compelled to go around with all our limbs out of order until he gets a new set. We got our share of the prune duff. I gave my share to a dog that was standing by, and I have not seen him since. The Filipino dogs are not as friendly as they are in America. Those who partook of the duff were effected in various ways that night; some were giving recitations about the "Rock of Gibraltar," others were singing "Rock of Ages," "Lead is Purer Than Gold," "A Heart of Marble," and "Let Me Take My Life Back Home." A number of poor natives who usually hang around and pick up the scraps of food that we throw away have not put in appearance since Jan. 22nd. The church bells have been ringing almost continually since. Whether they are celebrating the great dinner or ringing them for a funeral service, I am not sure, but it seems that the mortality among the natives has taken a sudden and alarming decrease. And

taking everything into consideration we passed the holidays very pleasantly and started the New Year with bright prospects and in good spirits.

Good bye.

Best to Mother.

Millions of people are familiar with DeWitt's Little Early Risers and those who use them find them to be famous little liver pills. Never gripe.

SKETCH.

(Continued from first page, part two.)

about the house a great deal as sort of chore boy and partly from idleness. One bright morning we held a burial service at the house and laid the body to rest in a grave south of the old Brown homestead in the edge of the orchard, but really in the door yard. I don't know why this place was used. I could go to it now with ease. We all felt sorry at this ending, but a more harassing experience for his poor mother was yet in reserve.

Some time in August, I think, two strangers came into the Yellow Creek district late in the afternoon and stopped for the night with Mr. Cole who lived south of the farm now known as the old Holvey farm. They were full of questions about this one and that one, but made little progress in pumping Cole. They finally came out and clearly asked for Dan Brown. They were told of his death and given full particulars of his return, sickness, death and burial. They were two officers from New Orleans who sought to arrest Dan for some offense or other if they found him living; or if to satisfy themselves of the identity of the body. They were extremely suspicious and feared being ambushed by the Browns. The story of Dan's death was so new to them that they declined to believe it. They looked upon it as a part of a plan to divert them from the trail of the living Dan who hoped thereby to escape them. They feared for their lives and under ordinary circumstances they might well have done so. They wanted to talk with some one who had helped to bury the remains. So I was sent for to give my story. I was asked all manner of questions after the manner of modern detectives and to which I gave but little true information beyond saying that Dan was dead and buried. The next morning they came to my father and we went over the ground again. My father wanted the officers to go down and talk with the Browns, but they refused. He then went over and talked with Mrs. Brown and finally got her consent to dig open the grave that the body might be identified by the strangers. After hearing from Mrs. Brown my memory became very much stronger than the night before. I told them more of the details of the dead man's return and sickness.

The end of it all was we all went down to the orchard, Mr. Cole, the two New Orleans men, my father and myself. It was a very sad errand. The New Orleans men yet feared ambushment and kept close to my father and Cole, but after some talk became satisfied of no danger. Old Mrs. Brown wept bitterly at the thought of exhuming her son but insisted that it be done if any doubt existed of his death. After some delay two laborers, I think Jim H— was one, were called up from the bottoms and began to re-examine the earth. We raised the coffin out of the pit; placed in on the grass under a pear tree and raised the lid. It was a solemn moment one stranger said: "Mrs. Brown, is that your son Dan?" she looked and answered, "Yes." The other stranger said: "Yes, that is the man. I know him." They then each made such excuses for the necessity that had forced them to such means of identification as they could, and after laying the body back in the grave quietly departed. We filled up the grave as kindly as we could.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, ss. Lucas County.

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